Wright brothers' home

Hawthorne Street looking south, 1910

## The Neighborhood Geniuses

"...the invention [of the airplane] came from such an unexpected quarter. The Wrights had no special training in science or engineering. While both were well educated, neither had completed the formal coursework required for his high school diploma. Before the summer of 1899, they seemed the most ordinary of men.

Tom Crouch, Wright brothers biographer

That was part of their fascination. They were the quintessential Americans, whose success seemed compounded of hard work, perseverance, and common sense, with a liberal dollop of Yankee ingenuity—raised to the level of genius."

Two seemingly ordinary brothers, who daily walked three blocks to work from this house over to their business on West Third Street, invented a machine that would impact the lives of billions of people.

Photographs courtesy Library of Congress and Wright State University Special Collections and Archive



There was some talk [at Rosecrans' headquarters] of falling back. I do not remember who started the subject, but . . . I said . . . my men would be very much discouraged to have to abandon the field after their good fight of the day . . . Rosecrans, perceiving men moving up and down with torches said . . . 'They have got entirely in our rear and are forming a line of battle by torchlight!' . . . [he] told us to go to our commands and prepare to fight or die.

Thomas Crittenden, major general, commanding the Left Wing

Soon after dark a small fire was built, and several of [our] me... had gathered to it... General Rosecrans came up and said 'You are my men and I don't like to have any of you hurt. Where the enemy see a fire like this, they know 25–30 men are gathered... and are sure to shoot at it. I advise you to put it out.' Scarcely was he done speaking, when... a shot came just high enough to miss the heads of the party, and a shell exploded just beyond.

Silas Canfield, captain, 21st Ohio Infantry regiment

The groans of the poor wounded was heart-rending. I could not repress a few falling tears. I got off my horse and built fires for several—foe and friend. Many, many...that chilled to death...that night might have been saved could they but have had attendance.

John Magee, corporal, Stanford's Mississippi Light Artillery

Nearly 30,000 Union soldiers spent New Year's Eve 1862 concentrated along Nashville Pike, the same highway you see just ahead.

Their Longest, Coldest New Year's Eve

1862 DECEMBER 31

midnight





early every relocation center built an Honor Roll sign listing the names of Japanese American internees serving in World War II. Minidoka's sign, which stood near the rock garden, was erected on October 14, 1943. By the war's end nearly 1,000 names were listed. On February 1, 1943, President Roosevelt activated the

**Minidoka National Historic Site** 

442nd Regimental Combat Team, a mostly Japanese American unit, which joined ranks with the 100th Infantry Battalion of the Hawaii National Guard. The combined Nisei 100th and 442nd became the most decorated regiment of its size and length of service in American history. It received 18,143 individual awards and had 9,486

casualties. Initially 1,200 Japanese Americans volunteered, but soon the combined 100th and 442nd regiments, fighting in Italy and France, swelled by the thousands. More than 16,000 Nisei also served in the Pacific and in Asia, performing invaluable tasks in the Military Intelligence Service, Women's Army Corps, and Red Cross.

## **Blacksmith Shop**

"Our blacksmith shop was a small building...with...a dirt floor. The forge and anvil, drill press, and emery wheel were used daily to repair farm tools and sometimes to make them. Our horses and mules were shod there, and our plow points sharpened. A few of us did this work routinely, but Daddy handled the more difficult jobs."

Jimmy Carter, 1975 Why Not the Best?



The building in front of you is a reconstruction.